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Fire & Rescue Division Hazardous Materials Section

BULLETIN # 6 – R.E. SEL # 5.1, 5.2 (Version 1.2)

ACCESSING LISTS of NFPA COMPLIANT CPC CERTIFIED by SEI and UL

Section five (5) of Part Two of the FIREScope Standardized Equipment List (SEL) concentrates on protective clothing, including chemical protective clothing ensembles (CPC). It itemizes what must be included as part of a hazardous materials response team's inventory at a minimum for a Type 1, 2, or a Type 3 team. Part of the requirement for specified inventory items for the CPC ensembles or individual items is that they must meet current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards:

Protection Level Requirement	SEL Item #	Applies To	NFPA Standard	Title
Vapor Protection – Industrial Chemicals	5.1.1	Type I Team Type II Team	Standard 1991	<i>Vapor-Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials Emergencies</i>
Vapor Protection – WMD Substances	5.1.4 - OR - 5.1.5 Class Two	Type I Team	Standard 1991	<i>Vapor-Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials Emergencies</i>
		Type I Team	Standard 1994	<i>Protective Ensembles for Chemical/Biological Terrorism Incidents</i>
Liquid Splash Protection – Industrial Chemicals	5.2.1	Type I Team Type II Team Type III Team	Standard 1992	<i>Liquid Splash-Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials Emergencies</i>
Liquid Splash Protection – WMD Substances	5.2.2 Class Three (Also meets 5.2.1 – No need to duplicate)	Type I Team	Standard 1994	<i>Protective Ensembles for Chemical/Biological Terrorism Incidents</i>

A list of those NFPA Standards can be found in Appendix “F” of the SEL. In order to be acceptable for team typing inspection, CPC ensembles or some individual parts must have certified labeling attached to verify they meet the appropriate NFPA standard, and have successfully passed critical testing by a recognized certifying testing laboratory. At the time of development of this bulletin, only two testing organizations have been identified by NFPA as acceptable to certify CPC. They are:

Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) Corporate Headquarters 333 Pfingsten Road Northbrook, IL., 60062-2096 1-847-272-8800	Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) 1307 Dolly Madison Boulevard Suite 3A McLean, VA., 22101
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Both SEI and the UL are private, non-profit organizations that administer a non-governmental, third-party certification program. They test and certify a broad range of safety and protective products used occupationally and recreationally. These certification programs are voluntary and available to any manufacturer of safety and protective equipment seeking to have product models certified. These certification programs can also be referenced in performance standards (i.e. NFPA, ANSI, ASTM, etc), and when so referenced, the safety and/or protective products then must be tested in accordance with the requirements of the performance standard.

Manufacturers and consumers are assured that products bearing the SEI label have been manufactured to meet the level of quality and performance of the most current comprehensive standards existing for the product.

Emergency response organizations can access a list of NFPA Standards 1991, 1992, and 1994 certified CPC ensembles or individual items from each of these two agencies. Accessing the lists will assist the response organization with determining which garments should be purchased (those that have been submitted to testing and have passed), and those garments that should not be included in the response organizations' inventory.

The websites are:

www.seinet.org/search/search.php
www.ul.com